EMERGENCY MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS: Protests in Ljubljana Saturday, February 25th, 2012

The October 15th Group and the Anonymous Group plan to hold a demonstration at Kongresni Trg on Saturday, February 25th, 2012. The event will begin at 12:00 noon; its duration is unknown at this point. Demonstrators are protesting against the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA). Currently, 170 people have confirmed their presence/participation on social media sites. Demonstrators are expected to move from Kongresni Trg to the European Commission Representation Office at Breg 14. Street closures and other traffic disruptions are not expected since all the venues are in the pedestrian zone. Slovenian police are prepared and ready to react if the gathering becomes too large or violent.

U.S. citizens should avoid the areas of the demonstrations and exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations. Try to stay current with media coverage of local events and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States or a regular toll line at-1-202-501-4444 for callers from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our <u>Bureau of Consular Affairs website</u>, which contains the current <u>Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts</u> as well as the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>. Follow the Bureau of Consular Affairs on Facebook as well.

We encourage U.S. citizens living or traveling in Slovenia to <u>register with the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u> to obtain updated information on travel and security within Slovenia. By registering, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly at the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana.

The <u>U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana</u> is located at Presernova 31. The American Citizens Services Unit telephone number is (386) 1-200-5595. For after-hours emergencies, the number is (386) 1-200-5500.